NEW PROFESSIONS FOR WOMEN

The Common Cause

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

LAW-ABIDING.] ***Societies and Branches in the Union 561.*** [NON-PARTY.

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[The National Union does not hold itself responsible for opinions expressed in signed articles.]

Notes and News.

The Trade Union Congress and the Representation of the People Bill.

The Trade Union Congress took care not to leave any doubt about its attitude to the Representation of the People Bill. Rather more than a week ago an article in *The Daily Telegraph* suggested that the Government might postpone the passage of the Bill until the question of the reform of the House of Lords had been dealt with. The Congress made it plain that it had no sympathy or patience with the suggestion, or with any proposal which would delay the grant of an instalment of justice to the voteless classes.

On September 6th, Mr. Henderson said that the passage of the Bill would be a triumph for Organised Labour, which had fought so long for the recognition of the rights of citizenship for women. He said: "The other day a prominent London newspaper urged that a solution of the Second Chamber problem should be found before the Bill became law. That was a direct challenge to democracy." "I believe," added Mr. Henderson, "that the future is ours. But if we are to create a new world out of the chaos when the world conflict has been brought to an end, it can only be done by our having the power to impress with our ideals and permeate with our spirit the national and international life, and to do so it is absolutely essential that the Representation of the People Bill should as speedily as possible be placed on the Statute-book. I believe that if we resolutely and courageously tackle the problems of the future there are multitudes who have never been within the ranks of Labour who are prepared to join hands with us, believing that we, if thoroughly united and organised, shall be the greatest bulwark for the peace of the world."

On September 8th, the concluding day of the Congress, the following resolution on electoral reform was formally moved by Mr. W. J. Davis, on behalf of the Committee :—

"That this Congress accepts the new Electoral Reform Bill as a compromise only. Therefore, this Congress reaffirms its previous declaration on matters not fully met by the new Bill, namely :—

"(*a*) A reduction to at least three months of the qualifying period by which electors may be placed on the register;

"(*b*) The closing of public-houses during the hours of polling; and

"(*c*) The extension of the franchise to all adults, male and female."

The President (Mr. J. Hill) said :—"Our information that it is the intention of the Government to delay the Representation of the People Bill till the reform of the House of Lords is dealt with, is only very informal. We heard it with very considerable alarm. We have had an informal talk during the Congress, and it is the intention of the Parliamentary Committee to take the question up within the next few days and deal with it."

It is plain that on the question of the representation of the people Labour will stand firm; and when it says People, it means People, and not only male People, like other political parties in the past.

The Congress and Education.

On the subject of education, too, the Congress showed its wholeheartedness. On the motion of Mr. G. Beadle (Iron and Steel Trades), seconded by Mr. F. Thompson (Dockers' Union), a motion was adopted calling on the Government to reorganise the educational system from the elementary school to the university, greater care being taken of the health of the children, and special attention being paid to technical education and to the encouragement of scientific investigation. Other resolutions were passed in favour of the raising of the school age, the establishment of compulsory daytime continuation classes, and, especially, the provision of educational facilities for children exempted from school attendance for war-work. It was also demanded that no child should be exempted under the age of sixteen, and that all wage-earning work should be prohibited for children under that age.

A Thousand New Houses for Barrow-in-Furness.

We have frequently referred in these columns to the scandalous housing conditions at Barrow-in-Furness. As a result of the plain speaking of the Commissioners on Industrial Unrest, we are glad to see that a representative of the Ministry of Munitions has been sent to Barrow to prepare a scheme for the construction of a thousand new houses with the greatest possible rapidity. This will be some improvement, though not enough, as the town's medical officer puts its requirements at three thousand.

Return of the Millicent Fawcett Units.

In view of the very grave situation in Russia, it has been a relief to the N.U.W.S.S. to welcome back the *personnel* of the Millicent Fawcett Units.

All are safe and sound, though some have had trying experiences. It is, of course, a grief to them to see their work overwhelmed in the general chaos. This is not a moment when any stranger can help Russia, but we believe that in the future the fact that English women have striven to lighten the sufferings of her people will not be forgotten, or prove vain.

Draughtsmanship for Women.

It is now as deadly a commonplace for the novel heroine to drive her Rolls-Royce, as "thoughtfully to light" her cigarette. Yet even since the enrolment of the great Munitions Army, few women have begun right at the other end—I mean in the Drawing Office, which you might call the soul of the works. But the story begins there, and there is often a thrill about "once upon a time" which is lost by the time "they all lived happily ever after."

It is even amazingly difficult to make the average woman understand what you mean by "drawing," in the mechanical sense. I say "women" because few boys escape at least the sight of a working drawing. Women tracers have not been entirely unknown, but draughting has remained a masculine prerogative of Masonic mystery. And, let it be at once understood, the designing or Senior Draughtsman will keep his prerogative for many a long year, well-earned by right of lifelong mechanical and mathematical knowledge. It is to replace the younger men who do the simpler work and who are known as Junior Draughtsmen, that the need is so great. With the right sort of training there is no reason why an intelligent woman, with some power of concentration, should not become a Junior Draughtsman. Woolwich Arsenal has proved this. A knowledge of drawing is a great advantage, but any sense of "artistic" superiority an immense hindrance.

Training is all-important where Method is everything, and a bad method is almost ineradicable. The work is not easy,—to most women it is learning a new language,—but after the first days of strange flounderings, it begins to exercise its own fascination, and you live in a new world of awful exactitude where the smallest sin finds you out promptly, and the very instruments mock the learner before she makes them her little slaves. Most offices start a new hand with tracing, which it is far better to learn after drawing. The amateur tracer with no knowledge of the parts traced gives a general impression that "Women can't do this work." This may sound unkind to many good tracers, but, speaking broadly, of those who have taken up the work since the war started, it is perfectly true. One has heard of offices who now dismiss stop-gap lady tracers and replace them by men on light duty. When the trained draughtswoman applies for a job, visions of the departed inefficients arise before the harassed officer and spoil her chance of getting a possible vacancy. Fragments of a telephone conversation come back to me, referring to the said inefficients. "Yes," said the officer. "Yes, *I* know—we *had* some here at the beginning of the war." Print cannot convey the tone of his voice. But it is up to us to change all that.

It is a great moment when your first Government sheet is handed out to you to trace. It is a nervous moment too, as you feel as certain of upsetting the ink all over it, as was "Mr. Britling" of driving his Ford into the ditch. But you don't. After a week you get used to many things—patient alterations of your work under orders from the powers that be—(you realise that you are a tracer, and are not there to make a pretty drawing). Also a fair amount of standing, a great deal of patient explanation from very busy draughtsmen, and the orthodox Village Blacksmith sensation of "something attempted" by the end of the day. Soon you will even view with perfect composure a black stream of ink forming a Niagara *en route* for the floor—as you find that occasionally these things befall even in the room where work the elect, the Senior Draughtsmen. These are generally pale and tired beings in old working coats, or shirt sleeves, poring over immense drawing-boards covered with cabalistic signs of incredible accuracy. Now and again these Olympians will condescend to do some special tracing, and they will at times impart crumbs of valuable knowledge.

If you are working against time there seem to be incessant interruptions for the next meal, or closing time. Another day there may be time to even touch up your title-heading and to admire the invading party of women window-cleaners with their ladders, belts, and chains. They watch our drawing from outside on a fifth-storey sill, and we notice that they often omit to hook on the chain, and the wonder is mutual.

There is a precious quarter of an hour for tea, after which work seems less of a mountain on the hard days, and a joy on the good ones. We tried the tealess system without success when training, but soon took it in turns to perform miracles with a gas-ring and assorted cups. We felt, as far as we were concerned, we should win the war quicker for our tea.

In another office the girls are the only civilians. They are exceptionally lucky in being able to form a small sports club, which manages to get in tennis and swimming once a week—a most valuable relief after so much standing and stooping over work. At this enlightened spot there is as great a diversity of work as of creatures. The majority of the girls work at colour diagrams with the aerograph brush, an invention which the reader may not have met, and which sprays the paint on in a more or less mechanical tint. Such a method is most effective in a department which exists to make technical matters plain in as short a time as possible to the non-mechanical mind. There, much of the actual drawing is of a less rigid nature, and to be understanded of the people. For it must be confessed that to the uninitiated, a technical drawing generally looks less like the object than anything could. So here you find pencil, pen and ink, colour, photography and lithography all enlisted under one roof, and that a large one, never intended for the purpose, and yet, like so many people, justifying its existence as perhaps it never did before. And all this for that arm of the Services on which most people think final victory depends.

Launched on this adventure, many people ask you if it is not tedious, monotonous—how can an artist ever like it? And so on. Well, it entirely depends on whether you are an artist or merely artistic. Between these there is a great gulf fixed. I do not say that every artist will become a good draughtsman, but every draughtsman or tracer should become a better artist. Vague "artistic" leanings are a sentimental encumbrance, but any previous experience of pens and ink, knowledge of "line," and above all, hard work, mean so much less to learn. Good lettering or "writing" (as experts have it) is essential. The good artist must always work for some vision of perfection, and will surely find it in this work. Where that is, monotony only nags on the bad days. There is real satisfaction in producing an accurate drawing, and a good tracing *can* be a decorative work of art. As for imagination, the beginner finds that of all fallacies none is greater than to assume that this work needs none, when she is called upon to visualise the other side of an object with whose front view she has not the slightest acquaintance!

Again, can you not see "the keen, unpassioned beauty of a great machine," and as the war goes on be glad to live on the edge of to-morrow? We could not endure these days without that. Our day's work is always for to-morrow. The race is to the swift, and, indeed, victory will be to those who work for the day after to-morrow. That will be a Day! Come and help.

R. M. H.

[*So many junior draughtsmen have been drawn from their posts into the Army, that there is a very great need for this work at the present time, and the number of openings has been multiplied owing to the great increase in engineering work.*

As the demand for trained workers far exceeds the available supply, a short emergency training in junior draughtsmanship for women students has been arranged to meet this need. The length of the course is four weeks, and the fee four guineas. The usual salary is from 30s. to 40s. to begin with, but higher salaries are often earned.

Further particulars of the training, and of training for women in other skilled occupations, may be obtained from the Women's Service Bureau, London Society for Women's Suffrage, 58, *Victoria Street, London, S.W.* 1.

Interviews from 10 *a.m. to* 4 *p.m. every week-day except Saturday; on Saturday by appointment.*

WOMEN WELDERS' ORGANISATION FUND.

The members of the Society of Women Welders appeal to the readers of The Common Cause for subscriptions to help the expenses of their organisation. They are confident that their Society will shortly become self-supporting, but at first their organisation expenses must be heavy, and they trust that those who believe with them that the only protection for women workers is organisation, will help them in their venture.

Subscriptions should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Miss M. M. Longley, c/o The Common Cause, 14, Great Smith Street, London, S.W. 1.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	104	10	6
Miss Helen Martin		5	0
Mrs. Sprigge	1	1	0
	£105	16	6

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

The National Union of Women Workers will meet in Council on October 3rd, 4th, and 5th, at the Y.M.C.A. Hall, Tottenham Court Road, London.

The N.U.W.S.S., as our readers know, is one of the affiliated Societies of the N.U.W.W. It is sending ten delegates to the Council meeting, and they will no doubt take an active part in the proceedings.

These will be of very special interest this year, in view of the reorganisation of women which will be necessary when the franchise is extended. Everyone has been wondering what will be the share of the National Union of Women Workers in this reconstruction. Some developments and modifications in its own constitution will probably be necessary, in order to meet the new situation. Almost all active members of the N.U.W.W. have some views as to what form these changes are to take. The N.U.W.S.S. delegates will make various proposals under this head, and the discussion ought to be very interesting.

Besides dealing with its own constitution, the N.U.W.W. will consider some of the great public questions which have a special interest for women. One of the resolutions to be discussed is a proposal for a Ministry of Health, to effectively co-ordinate the working of the National Health Insurance Acts, with the care of the health and housing of the community, now under the Local Government Board.

Another affirms an unshaken belief in an equal moral standard for men and women, and urges that the solicitation laws should be so reformed as to be in conformity with this belief.

The question of reformative agencies for young people, and the need for a Government Commission to enquire into those which exist, and make suggestions for the future, will also be considered. Also the better care of illegitimate and adopted children, and better provision for the nursing of the sick in Poor-Law Institutions.

In regard to international politics, a resolution will be considered urging that "it is expedient, in the interests of mankind, that some machinery should be set up after the present war for the purpose of maintaining international right and general peace."

On all these questions the National Council of Women will probably have definite recommendations to make to the Government. They are likely to be received with respect and attention as not only does the N.U.W.W. include in its ranks, or in those of its affiliated Societies, nearly all the women who are experts in questions of social reform, but these experts, and those who follow them, will in all probability mostly be voters before the year is out;—voters who will care far more for social matters than for the intricacies of party politics.

A "COMMON CAUSE" HUT IN FRANCE.

Who will help us to provide a hut for women workers who are going out to France?

The winter will soon be here. Already the days are drawing in, and women and girls working in a foreign country will need a place for rest, recreation, and cheerful society even more than those who are busy at home.

If our hut is to be ready by the winter, to shelter girls from the wet and cold, and provide them with refreshment at a moderate price, it is necessary to begin to build it at once. But so far we have only collected £146 4s.

Another £353 16s. is needed for the building of the hut, and in addition to this £200 for its equipment, and another £200 to keep it going for a year.

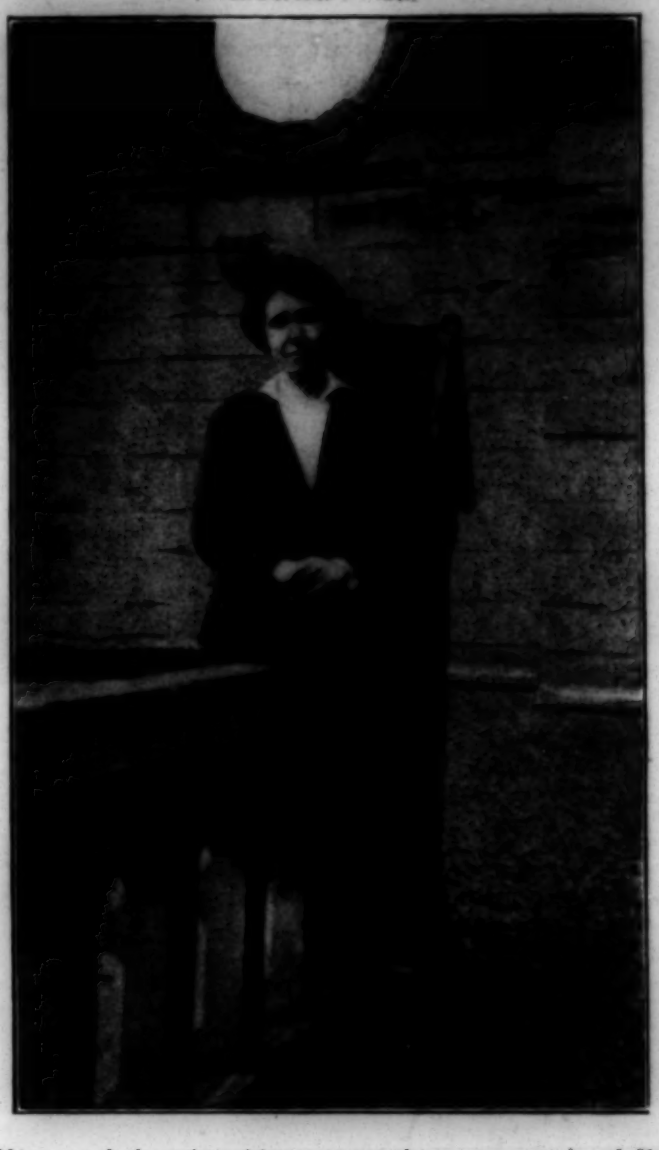
Please send your donation TO-DAY.

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations:—

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	124	19	0
Miss M. E. Lomas		2	6
The Misses I. and H. Lassell	2	2	0
Miss J. M. Barker	5	0	0
Mrs. Russell (from Jumble Sale)	5	0	0
Miss E. Jameson		5	0
The Misses Michael	5	0	0
Mrs. Eyres	2	2	0
Miss Foster May		10	0
"Mother," Sunderland		2	6
Mrs. Dalglish		5	0
Miss Hoe		6	0
Lady Crofton		10	0
	£146	4	0

Further donations should be sent to The Editor, THE COMMON CAUSE, 14, Great Smith Street, S.W. 1.

DR. MARION WILSON
of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals.



We are glad to be able to reproduce a portrait of Doctor Marion Wilson, whose lamented death is a grievous loss to the work of our hospitals in France.

IN MEMORIAM: Lieut. G. C. S. TENNANT.

Second-Lieutenant George Christopher Serocold Tennant, 1st Battalion, Welsh Guards, who fell in action on September 3rd, aged nineteen, was the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Coombe Tennant, of Cadoxton Lodge, Vale of Neath, South Wales. He was born in 1897, and was educated at West Downs (Mr. Helbert) and Winchester (Mr. Beloé's house), and was a member of Trinity College, Cambridge, though owing to the war he never actually went into residence there. He entered Sandhurst as a Prize Cadet in August, 1916, passing out twelfth on the list in April last. He received a commission in the Welsh Guards in May, and sailed for France on August 9th. He was struck by fragments of a shell in the trenches in the early morning of Monday, September 3rd, remaining unconscious from the first instant until death, which occurred within half an hour. His Commanding Officer writes: "What work I gave him to do he always did excellently, and he was splendid up in the trenches for his first time. He didn't seem to care a bit about the shells. The men loved him for that. Although he was so young, they all respected him, and knew at once that he was a good officer. I feel the loss very keenly."

He was an ardent supporter of Woman Suffrage, and took a great interest in the affairs of the National Union. As a boy at Winchester he got up a debate on Woman Suffrage in his dormitory, which ended in the carrying of a resolution in favour of the principle by a considerable majority. He followed the fortunes of the Woman's Suffrage Clause in the Representation of the People Bill with unvarying interest, although he was working very hard at the time the Bill was before the House. Writing to his mother on June 22nd, he said: "I am rejoicing over Woman Suffrage. It is splendid that it has come at last."

The Woman 'Ater

A Hospital Episode.

Scene: A hospital tent "Somewhere Abroad." Seven beds stand more or less unevenly on the ground-sheet down each side. In the middle, at a scrubbed deal table, on which are a medicine-cupboard, dressing-boxes, &c., a nurse is making "Benger's Food" over a methylated spirit stove. A group of convalescent patients in hospital blue, perched in rows on two of the beds behind her, are discussing the universe in general. The conversation has drifted from the respective defects of the climates of France and "Salonique" (as the travelled call it), *via* the merits of various contrivances for strafing Huns, to women munition workers.

A sallow, sardonic-looking man (gloomily): "It seems ter me, by the time we gets back to Blighty the women will be doin' all the work, and getting on fine without us."

Allbury (a sturdy Cockney boy, with impudent blue eyes, and his cap tilted over one ear): "Wimen? I tell you what it is: wimen's the root of all evil!"

He squares himself and looks round triumphantly, cocking one eye at the nurse's back. Two youngsters, sitting affectionately arm-in-arm, burst into convulsive giggles, and fall over on the bed, one on top of the other. A sedate-looking man of the navvy type looks somewhat shocked. There is a chorus of "Ah-h!" "Oh, ay!" from the rest. Pleased with the sensation he has created, Allbury elaborates his theme.

"What I sez to all of you is, stear clear of wimen. You don't never catch me takin' up with a girl. When you're on yer own you knows where you is, an' you knows where your wages goes to. You're all right so long as no girl don't get 'old of you. That's right what I'm sayin', ain't it, Sister?"

The others look rather taken aback at his daring. The nurse turns round with a twinkle in her eye which suggests that she has not lost much of the conversation. Pouring the hot milk on to her "Benger," she leaves it to do its regulation period of peptonising.

The Nurse: "Well, Allbury, you seem to know an awful lot about it"—glancing up at the board hanging above his bed, which reads:—"*Name:* Allbury (Percy J.). *Age:* Twenty years. *Service:* One year eleven months." "You must be very wise for your age!" (Derisive laughter from the audience, and cries of, "Now, Percy!" "That's right, Sister, tell 'im off!" "'E's a woman 'ater!") The nurse goes on more gravely:

"I don't know why I should 'tell him off,' exactly. I've heard a lot of you boys talking like that, and it seems to me there's one thing you are forgetting. What about your mothers?"

The effect of her question is immediate and obvious. The men look at her solemnly, evidently impressed. She stops short, rather flushed, sermonising being a new vocation to her, but presently continues:

"You all talk a great deal about girls, and some of you seem to think you'd get on better if there weren't any. How would you have done if there'd been no mother to look after you when you were little?"

They look at each other sheepishly, then there is a general laugh, quite different in tone from the previous laughter, in which the nurse joins. Allbury, grinning himself, turns to hide his embarrassment on the inoffensive couple, who are once more arm-in-arm, and grabs them both by the neck. The bed bounces under a struggling mass of blue from which feet clad in thick gray socks project, waving wildly.

Another patient (sarcastically): "Malaria patients, Sister!"

The Nurse: "Steady, there's good boys! You'll break the bed down. This isn't a bear-garden!"

The scrimmage subsides, and its component parts right themselves, red and panting.

"Now, put those beds tidy before anyone comes in and sees them."

They fall to re-making the beds. The nurse begins to boil up her "Benger." Presently she remarks, still stirring:

"I want someone to go up to the dispensary to fetch down the fresh medicines. Who'll go?"

Allbury (coming to "attention" in front of her and saluting with mock solemnity): "Me, Sister."

The Nurse: "Thank you, Allbury. There's the basket, and be sure you make them give you all the bottles that are down in the book."

Allbury salutes again, turns on his heel, and struts off with the basket on his arm. The nurse pours her "Benger" into a basin, and proceeds to carry it to a patient at the other end of the ward. As she passes the elderly navvy, who took no part in the debate, they exchange meaning smiles, and she says, with a shake of her head:

"Funny boys, aren't they?"

The Elderly One: "They are that, Sister! It's a fact, too, what you was telling them. We're ruled by women from the cradle to the grave, and that's the truth of it!"

E. K.-W.

Reviews.

Motherhood and the Relationships of the Sexes. By Mrs. Gasquoine Hartley. (Eveleigh Nash. 7s. 6d.)

"Motherhood and the Relationships of the Sexes" is a depressing work; for the world, as the author sees it, is a sex-ridden world, a world of warped sex impulses, baffled, haunting, all-pervading sex instincts. Mrs. Gasquoine Hartley will not, of course, admit that this state of affairs is essentially depressing. In her opinion cause for depression lies not in the dominance and pervasiveness of sex, but in the social philosophy which drives it underground, and weaves an atmosphere of uncomfortable impropriety around the most glorious processes of nature. And Mrs. Gasquoine Hartley in "Motherhood and the Relationships of the Sexes" is seeking by a readjustment of our ideas and of our social arrangements, to set these forces free, to divert them from morbid channels of expression, and finally to harness them to the ideal of a glorified and dignified motherhood.

The actual remedy which Mrs. Hartley prescribes for this sexual sickness of society is threefold. It includes first and foremost the uncompromising recognition by women of motherhood as their essential glorious function, a function incompatible with restless modern strivings for economic independence and a place in the world of industry. The failure of women to recognise the true significance of this function Mrs. Hartley attributes largely to the defects of female education; and in the course of a vigorous attack upon existing methods she urges that during the two or three years which cover a girl's physical transition to womanhood, the pressure of ordinary school activities should be relaxed, and the care and significance of that physical development made the central fact of her life. But Mrs. Hartley is by no means a councillor of pure perfection, and here we come to the third plank in her platform, namely the frank recognition of the fact that with a certain number of people the sex impulse can never be harnessed to the parental ideal, nor even to the conditions of permanent monogamic marriage. In order, therefore, to avoid the moral evil and physical danger of surreptitious extra-marital relations between men and women, Mrs. Hartley recommends the social and legal recognition of temporary childless marriage contracts. To sum the matter up, Mrs. Hartley is out against the old ascetic ideal of the Christian Churches which discriminates between sexual and spiritual love, and preaches suppression and self-denial in sexual matters.

Now, I have described Mrs. Gasquoine Hartley's world as a depressing one, and I venture to persist in that description, applying it not merely to the existing world which she criticises, but to the remodelled world which she foreshadows. When once society bows to the dominance of the sex impulse it bows to an irrational force under whose free play women tend to be limited to a single function. Mrs. Hartley is ready to welcome, indeed by her system of education, to encourage, such a consummation. Personally I am not. Because eighty women find their deepest satisfaction in motherhood or sexual passion, I see no reason why twenty women should not find their deepest satisfaction in mathematics or mysticism or finance, or any combination of such joys. The world towards which civilisation is blundering is a world in which the investment of "talents" in whatever currency becomes an easier business than it was in the fighting days of the rough Stone Age; and a dominant force of sex impulse which condemns a budding female scientist to three years of predominantly sexual education is comparable to a dominant force of race hatred which sends Charpentier to fight a machine-gun and puts Kreisler into the trenches.

Perhaps the most repellent of Mrs. Hartley's suggestions is her educational programme. Even if we grant that her three years or so of sexual education will turn out satisfactory mothers, grant that its subjects will achieve tolerable happiness under it, how is it going to affect the brothers and the brothers' friends encountered during the holidays?

But though Mrs. Hartley's world is a depressing one, I personally, am not depressed, for she fails to convince me that the actual world is as she sees it. This is partly because she prejudices the reader by writing a pseudo-scientific work in a style which one can only describe as a peculiarly wordy and extravagant form of journalese. On the whole, it is difficult not to suspect that Mrs. Hartley is looking at the world through a pair of spectacles across which the word "sex" is written in crimson letters.

And yet, of course, she is tackling a very real and pressing problem, one which she outlines graphically in the opening chapters of her book where she deals with the evils of ignorance and industrial strain, and with the resulting high rate of pre- and post-natal infant mortality. All this is, of course, convincing enough; so indeed is a great deal of what Mrs. Hartley says about the necessity for a wider and deeper sense of the dignity of motherhood. But something more concrete than a change of heart is required for the realisation of that dignity; such things as the services of doctors and monthly nurses, fresh milk, wholesome rooms, the absence of domestic and financial worry during several weeks of complete rest, and all the other material conditions which many middle-class persons take for granted when they preach to working women about the wonder and importance of motherhood. And Mrs. Hartley, in shutting her eyes to the economic side of the problem and over-emphasising the sexual, falls into the inconsistency of condemning off-hand the striving for economic independence through the endowment of maternity, without seriously considering whether such a programme may not provide the essential conditions for the change of heart which she desires.

Mary Stocks.

I APPEAL UNTO CÆSAR. By Mrs. Henry Hobhouse (with Introduction by Professor Gilbert Murray). (George Allen & Unwin. 1s. net.)

In this little book Mrs. Hobhouse, who has three sons serving in the Army and one who is a conscientious objector, urges that the law which provides for the exemption from military service of those who think that war is morally unjustifiable should be carried out in letter and in spirit. Professor Gilbert Murray, whose whole-hearted support of England's part in the war is well known, has written an introduction, in which he speaks of the treatment meted out to a certain number of conscientious objectors as "infamous," and urges ordinary citizens to take notice of what is happening and do what they can to stop the injustice. He argues that none of us are exonerated from the duty of trying to obtain justice for this small minority because we do not sympathise with their opinions—opinions which he himself thinks "tragically wrong"; nor because we find the objectors themselves exasperating—"all conscientious objectors known to history have been exasperating." Nor can anything be mended by a suppression of the facts. "A thick veil has been drawn to hide the whole of these discreditable proceedings from the people of England. It is because we wish that veil rent that we have agreed to the publication of this little book."

Mrs. Hobhouse's plea is also supported by the Earl of Selborne, Lord Parmoor, Lord Hugh Cecil, and Lord Henry Bentinck. The evidence she brings forward is sufficiently grave to call for the attention of all citizens who, like these gentlemen, feel that it is important, not for individuals only, but for the whole country, that the law should be justly administered to majority and minority alike. I. B. O'M.

SOME USEFUL HANDBOOKS ON PRACTICAL QUESTIONS.

THE HEALTH OF WORKING GIRLS. By Beatrice Webb, M.D. (Blackie & Jones Ltd. 2s. 6d. net.)

Dr. Webb describes her book as "a handbook for welfare workers and others," which will include all women engaged in forms of social work which bring them into contact with working girls. Anyone who may be called upon to advise or instruct young women as to matters of health will find the book helpful for its clear, concise way of dealing with the maladies with which girlhood is beset, and the proper means of avoiding them, and of counteracting their effects. With due insistence on the need for qualified medical advice when once illness has been contracted, great stress is laid on the preventive power of a healthy way of living—open windows, proper exercise for those employed in sedentary work, attention to the little everyday details of the laws of health, suitable diet, and clothing. These recommendations have the merit of being such as a girl earning her own living should not find it out of her power to carry out.

A chapter on "the taking of medicines" gives some information on "proprietary medicines" which should do something to check the constant resort to them which has become so usual. Blind faith in the powers of a much advertised preparation to work marvels may well be shaken by the knowledge that, while it is sold at 2s. 6d. a bottle, its ingredients cost less than a halfpenny.

The chapters on alcohol, on food, and on work and rest, though written with a view to the circumstances of working girls, are of much wider application. Throughout the book a special effort is made to deal with those aspects of its subject which concern factory life, and are likely to be of special interest to welfare supervisors. There has been much criticism lately in quarters which claim to represent the wishes and feelings of working women of what is known as "Welfare Work." We have been told that a good welfare supervisor is even more pernicious than a bad one, as tending to bolster up the objectionable system. The gist of this criticism seems to be that, given better wages and adequate Government inspection of factories, girls would be able to safeguard their own interests, and would have "no use" for the welfare supervisor and all her activities, which are resented as an impertinent interference with her liberty. Undoubtedly the system, in the wrong hands, is capable of being twisted to bad ends (as what system is not?), but in reading Dr. Webb's little volume one seems to catch glimpses of many ways in which the influence of a well-educated, well-trained woman of the right type might prove invaluable to girls living under the conditions of modern factory life. E. K. W.

WOMEN'S WORK IN WAR-TIME. By H. M. Usborne, with a Preface by Lord Northcliffe. (Werner Laurie. 2s.)

A most useful little handbook of the chief employments, apart from industrial occupations, in which women are engaged during the war, giving particulars as to qualifications, training, conditions of work and remuneration, and where to apply for posts. There are also chapters, by various writers, on the war work and future prospects of university women, women's opportunity in the munition factory, welfare work, the outlook for women in clerical work, and other openings for educated women. E. K. W.

TWENTIETH-CENTURY COOKERY PRACTICE. By Mrs. Fred Aronson. (Routledge. 3s. 6d. net.)

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The Humanity of Women.

"Since I can do no good because a woman,
Reach constantly to something that is near it."
—*Beaumont and Fletcher, "The Maid's Tragedy."*

Every advance in political and social freedom may be regarded from two points of view—either as the permission given to a part of humanity to make its full contribution to the whole, or as the grant to certain individuals of the right to be looked upon as complete human beings.

In the circumstances of the present time, it is natural that women should view the gift of citizen rights about to be extended to them mainly from the first point of view, and should rejoice first of all in the thought of the greater contribution they will now be able to make to the hard-pressed and suffering community. But the other aspect of the extension of the franchise is one which is also worth thinking about. It is another point gained in the claim of women to be looked on as human in the same sense as men are human.

Ever since humanity has been conscious of itself, distinctions have been drawn between those who believed themselves to be human in the fullest sense of the word, and those to whom the right was not conceded, and who in many cases did not even claim it for themselves; and the claim for freedom which has been put forward in generation after generation by slaves of all kinds has never been merely a claim to share in the good things of this world, or even to have the free disposal of their own actions, but always also a claim to have souls.

The Greeks thought of the free citizens of Hellas as standing by themselves in the full light of divine reason: outside, in a kind of semi-twilight, were women, barbarians, and slaves. Plato, indeed, penetrated to the truth that women were "not different in kind" from men, but his ideal republic was even further from Greek realities than from ours. The point of view of the ancient world was more truly expressed by Aristotle, when he said that there were natural slaves as inferior to the naturally free as beasts to men or as the body to the soul. He added that Nature had differentiated women from slaves, but that this was only so among the Hellenes, among the barbarians, women and slaves were on the same footing, and there were none who were natural rulers. "Hence the poets say, 'Tis meet Greeks rule barbarians,' implying the natural identity of barbarians and slaves." He went on to discuss the question whether women and slaves were capable of virtue, and whether a woman was bound to be temperate and just, and decided that "The temperance of a man and a woman is not the same, nor their courage and justice, as Socrates supposed, but a man's courage is of a ruling and a woman's of a subordinate kind, and so with all other virtues."

In strange opposition to this whole system of life came the challenge of Christianity, with its assertion of the supreme value of the individual human soul. In Christ there is "neither Jew nor Greek, neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female." But this conception was not one that could be easily assimilated either by Israel or Hellas, by Rome or by the barbarian conquerors of the world. It was not only remote from all their theories of life, but the history of Europe since it was first preached, would seem to show that it was, and is, opposed to some of the deep-rooted instincts of human nature,—as opposed to them, perhaps, as the command to love our enemies as ourselves, and to offer the other cheek to those that smite us.

Thus it happens that though Christianity has been preached for nearly 2,000 years, deep distinctions have still been drawn between serfs and freemen, between black men and white, between rich and poor, and between women and men. Nay—Christianity itself has been distorted to justify them, and the second greatest among Christian poets has discriminated between the relation of the sexes to the Deity—"He for God only, she for God in him."

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It is not possible to estimate the loss that has been caused to the human race by the belief that some of the children of men are born only to be the instruments of others, and without claim to divine reason, 'the master-craftsman of the soul':—nor is it possible to estimate the obscure sufferings of those to whom it has been constantly suggested that they could only have relative virtues. In every generation there have been some who have been strong enough in their humanity to resist the suggestion. Epictetus like St. Paul maintained that spiritual freedom was possible for bondmen, and in spite of Aristotle and Milton, and other lesser men, some women have gone on claiming a share of divine reason, and acting as if they had it. Such women as Charlotte Brontë, or George Eliot, or Florence Nightingale could not be paralysed by the suggestion that they were only half-human, but even they did not escape from it without suffering, and to many lesser women it has been a source not of suffering only, but of deadening harm.

Bishop Gore has pointed out that one of the essential motives of the Labour movement is a demand for the recognition of personality; the same is true of the women's movement. The claim to education, the right to work, and the franchise, have been stages in a larger claim which has only recently become self-conscious. A rapid advance towards the recognition of that claim has been made in the last few years. The girls who are growing up now will breathe a different air from that which their mothers and aunts, or even their elder sisters, knew in girlhood. Their freedom will profit their brothers, too. It will be an immediate enrichment of humanity which will do something to compensate for the bitter losses undergone by this generation. As we do not know what the race has lost in the past by not fully admitting the human rights of women, so we cannot tell what it will gain when it has admitted them, but we know that the gain must be great and that through the present suffering mankind is advancing to at least one unknown but certain good.

I. B. O'M.

The Increased Permanent Employment of Women as Farm Labourers.

In many parts of England, especially in the Southern Counties before the war, the employment of women on the land had entirely died out. In other parts—more particularly the Fens—an impetus had been given some thirty or forty years ago to the employment of women, by the growth of the potato, root, and fruit industries, and for many years work among these crops had been the normal occupation of every woman and girl in the Fen villages. In other districts, the village women during the summer worked in the fields, giving the farmer as much or as little of their time as they chose. In these villages it was chiefly the married women who were the workers, the girls choosing other walks in life. There also existed in some parts of the country a great dislike to agricultural work, as being degrading—this, no doubt, being largely due to the low class of worker imported for seasonal work by the farmer. Though this was not always the case. In Essex and Derbyshire, for example, milking was considered work far too degrading for a woman to do. The source of labour was chiefly the village, augmented by gangs of workers brought from the towns for the rush of seasonal work—fruit-picking, hopping, work on roots, and hoeing and weeding. The number of women employed as whole-time workers—as horse-women, rearing stock, or as ploughwomen, was negligible, and one of the surprises which the farmer has had since the war, when he has dared to employ a woman, has been the extraordinary facility with which many women have taken on such work. The whole-time woman-worker on the farm before the war was really the milker, and this only in some counties.

In 1916, an effort was made to induce women in villages where land work had died out, or had ceased to be done by them for many years, to come forward for this work; efforts were made also to get more women to come forward in villages where a certain number did work. These efforts were in a great measure a success, and it is to be regretted that the over-zealousness of those who thought they saw in the mobile National Service Land Worker a solution of all the problems connected with the shortage of agricultural labour, checked considerably further efforts which would have resulted, it is certain, in placing at the farmer's disposal a larger supply of village women.

But though the measures taken to organise village women did, in a considerable degree, cease for some months, it is clear to all those who have really studied the question of the increased permanent employment of women on the land that in the fuller organisation of village women, whether by the Group Leader method, through the Village Women's Institutes, or by other means, lies the solution of the problem of the shortage of male agricultural labour, which, it must be borne in mind, will be as acute in certain districts after the war as now. For these reasons, the greatest shortage of labour is found at the present moment where it always has been short—*i.e.*, in those parts of the country where wages are low and the farming poor. Men are not going back again to these districts in any number until something has been done to raise the standard of farming, for they will fear that until that is done the minimum wage of 25s. will become a maximum, as the farmer will never be in a position to increase wages until the standard of his farming is raised. That the standard will be raised is true; already the County Executive Committees are empowered to deal with cases of under-farming; and the farmer with too little capital to help himself will now find, what he should have been able to find long ago—a Credit Bank to help him; also, as the war has taught him many things, he will begin to see that in co-operation, both for the sale of his produce and the purchase of his requirements, lies the best and most valuable form of assistance. But the realisation of all these activities will be slow; there will be a transition time, and it is during this period that there will be a demand for an increased supply of local female labour. The labour must be local, because that is the form which suits the farmer best. He can get the village woman as and when he likes, for a few hours, a long day, or a short day; he can pay her by piece-work, and he does not, therefore, have to pay her when the weather is wet. And this arrangement suits the village woman. It gives her that amount of extra money which eases the family income, and it is this argument which will bring many more village women into land work after the war. For when that time comes, prices will still be high, and family life will be often complicated by semi- or totally disabled men, whose pensions will bear adding to. The farm work these women will do will be that which they are doing now—*i.e.*, the ordinary field work—hoeing, weeding, burning twitch, cutting up turnips, &c.—and work, which, except in a minority of cases, has been only done by women in the summer, and on which they are not employed during the winter. But it is interesting to note in this connection that all last winter women in many districts stayed on at work, which they usually would not do in the cold weather, and this may become a normal condition in the future.

Village women have but rarely been employed as whole-time workers as horse-women, stock-keepers, ploughwomen, or as general farm labourers. The mobile National Service girl has been called on to do all these classes of work, but she is not going to be a permanent feature of English country life. Some 5,000 of these girls have been put into work—a very small number in comparison with that of the farmers who in England and Wales number some 200,000; and of these girls, on a rough estimate, only 20 per cent. or so will stay on as permanent workers. There is one reason only on the girls' side for this small number remaining—the inadequacy of the wage when living away from home. On an average, throughout the country, the amount charged these girls for board, lodging, and washing is 14s. a week, and she does not intend to remain in work which only leaves her a few pence for herself. The farmer has several reasons for not keeping her permanently: he sees the inadequacy of the wage; the girls living alone, or in pairs, in the village rather worry him—he feels a responsibility which he does not want to shoulder. He is nervous about the girls working with his men, and this is an acute difficulty in East Anglia. If the girl were living with her parents in the village, his mind would be easy. *And he does not want women like her at all as permanent workers if he can possibly manage without.* The reasons before the last are those which have made so many farmers of the better type prefer the educated girl; but this class of girl is largely out-numbered by the girl of a lower class, and the former is not going to stay on permanently as a land-worker any more than the latter.

But in the very nature of things, the village girl should find in the higher branches of farm-work an opening for herself, which should, if certain conditions can be obtained, prove as attractive as that of dressmaker, domestic servant, clerk in the adjoining town, or as factory hand.

The certain conditions are, of course, first, the securing of an adequate commencing wage, and the definite promise of increases; secondly, the brightening of village life, so that the girl will be able to get some, at least, of those forms of recreation which are the attraction of town life.

Poverty, and poverty alone, has been, and is, the cause

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of the stagnation of village life; and the fixing of a minimum rate of wages for the male agricultural labourer, low though it is, will raise village life to a brighter level, and help to stir into being many activities in the village. Those which would help to attract the girl to the village are the establishment of a Women's Institute and a village sports club and swimming-bath. The time is ripe for the Women's Institute scheme—with its varied attractions of social intercourse, lectures, and exhibitions, and co-operative clubs for the more or less local buying and selling of produce—to be taken over by the Board of Agriculture, and run on the same lines as the State scheme in Canada. If, in addition to all these, the village housing problem is effectively handled, it ought to be possible to make the village girl—who at present is eager to leave her home—only too eager to stay; and though, as has been pointed out, it will be in the poorer districts that the work of the village girl will be first in most demand, it is possible that in the wealthier districts the farmers may, in time, also begin to use her for work of a permanent nature; for there is no doubt she will prove her worth.

ISABEL BASNETT,
Late Travelling Inspector (Women's Branch), Board of Agriculture.

Correspondence.

"THE MASTER PROBLEM."

MADAM,—I have not read Mr. Marchant's book of this name, but your reviewer's notice of it really calls for a protest. Such an attitude of mind towards the difficult problems of sex is the very last that is fitted to deal with them. It is all too clearly the attitude of religious persecution.

In the first place, your reviewer evidently sees no distinction between the question of prostitution, and that of irregular love affairs; they are all "debauchery" it would appear, and this is how the latter are to be dealt with. Adultery is to be made a crime, and fornication is to be also penalised; while to complete the debauchee's discomfiture divorce is to be absolutely prohibited. For divorce is "legalising immorality within the marriage bond." At this time of day one hardly expects to meet such views, but when they crop up in a paper usually so enlightened as THE COMMON CAUSE they cannot be passed in silence.

May I remind your readers of the facts in regard to the Matrimonial Causes Act of 1857 which your reviewer so strongly condemns? Up to the time of its passing there was no such thing as a legal divorce recognised by the State, and the only way to obtain one was by the passing of a special law through Parliament for the individual case. The result was well illustrated by a celebrated address to a prisoner by Mr. Justice Maule that may be quoted: "Prisoner at the bar: You have been convicted of the offence of bigamy; that is to say, of marrying a woman while you had a wife still alive, though it is true she has deserted you and is living in adultery with another man. You have, therefore, committed a crime against the laws of your country, and you have also acted under a very serious misapprehension of the course which you ought to have pursued. You should have gone to the Ecclesiastical Court and there obtained against your wife a decree *a mensa et thoro*. You should then have brought an action in the courts of common law and recovered damages against your wife's paramour. Armed with these decrees, you should have approached the legislature and obtained an Act of Parliament which would have rendered you free and competent to marry the person whom you have taken on yourself to marry with no such sanction. It is quite true that this would have cost you many hundreds of pounds whereas you probably have not as many pence. But the law knows no difference between rich and poor. The sentence of the court therefore is that you be imprisoned for one day, which period has already been exceeded, as you have been in custody since the beginning of the assizes."

It is said that the Judge's irony gave an impetus to the inevitable reform which came in the shape of your reviewer's "retrograde" Act of 1857. This consisted roughly in transferring to a civil court the powers of the Ecclesiastical Courts in divorce matters together with powers equivalent to those exercised by Parliament in granting an absolute divorce.

The measure was, of course, incomplete and unfair in many ways, but it was the first great step towards a reasonable way of dealing with divorce. Your reviewer remarks: "The results of this grave wrong can be traced in our slums, our diseases, our weakened physiques, our terrible crop of defectives." With equal justice might we trace her own extraordinary reasoning to the granting of votes to women in New Zealand.

If we are to arrive at any reasonable conclusion about these difficult problems, it is of vital importance that we should clear our minds of prejudices—religious, moral, and social. We must clearly distinguish between the question of unchartered love affairs and the utterly different question of commercialised vice. Even if it be held that there is no difference in immorality, yet nothing but confusion can arise from the attempt to apply the same remedy to such different phenomena as the unfaithful wife and the prostitute. Voluntary extra-legal intercourse between the sexes is one question, and a large one; but the trade in human beings, with all its peculiar and horrible concomitants is quite another.

OLIVER STRACHEY.

METHODS OF REFORMATION.

MADAM,—The point under discussion in my article on "The Criminal Law Amendment Bill" was whether compulsory detention effects moral reformation in the case of sexual offences. The experience of those engaged in dealing with the problem at first hand goes to prove the contrary, at least as far as short terms of imprisonment are concerned. The point at issue between the promoters and opponents of the Bill is whether longer terms of compulsory detention are likely to be any more

successful than short ones. On the other hand, voluntary residence in a home, combined with practical training in a new trade has proved its efficiency.

We may take it for granted that readers of THE COMMON CAUSE support the doctrine that every human being must be held responsible for his or her own actions. But under the present laws against prostitution we are making the woman responsible for the actions of the man as well as for her own. Is this "a fair field and no favour"? It is not only unjust to penalise the prostitute while leaving the partner in her offence to go free but it is perfectly useless as a means of preventing prostitution or of inducing sexual morality.

I suggest that if the law cannot punish *all* cases of sexual irregularity —and that is not only impracticable, but probably undesirable—it should be confined to keeping order in the streets by proceeding against molestation or annoyance by either sex, and the suppression of houses kept for immoral purposes. This appears to me to be as far as the law can be effectively employed in regard to sexual offences.

By penalising the woman only, the law positively encourages belief in a double moral standard and strikes a blow at the cause of true morality.

ROSAMOND SMITH.

THE STATE, THE MOTHER, AND THE CHILD.

MADAM,—As an addition to M. Thoday's article in a recent number of THE COMMON CAUSE, may I state an alternative to the now frequently discussed scheme of Endowment of Motherhood, *i.e.*, the institution of free State *boarding* schools to cover the same period in the working-class child's life (or longer) as the present elementary school. Such schools, if adopted, would most effectually improve the chance, physical and educational, of the very poor child, and at the same time effectually lighten the burden of the harassed working mother. They should, of course, be healthily situated in the country, and by taking children out of slums would breed in them an aversion to unclean, crowded existence, which would in no other way be inculcated.

They would be optional, and probably appeal only to the more intelligent parents, but the rest, once satisfied that they lost no parental rights, would soon consent to the system of education for their older children which relieved the family purse, and made it more possible for the mother to keep out of industry, and properly attend to her home and younger offspring.

As an educational reform, this project is simple, and an experimental beginning could be made. Surely the State, the mother, and the child would all benefit.

ETHEL L. WILKINSON.

THE FUTURE OF THE NATIONAL UNION.

MADAM,—"The Future of the National Union" is the title of your leading article in the issue of August 31st, and we desire to offer a suggestion in partial answer to the question asked. We believe that women should proceed to establish for themselves, and in order of urgency, those institutions which have admittedly been of service to men and humanity as a whole, and have stood the test of time; and at the head of these we place the Voluntary Friendly Societies. Many of them owe much of their success to women—the wives and mothers of their members—who, realising the necessity of the regular payment of contributions, have made these claims a first charge on thousands of small incomes.

Though we advocate the cause of *all* the Voluntary Friendly Societies, the practical side of this letter will be advanced by calling attention only to those which combine opportunities for pecuniary and social benefits; the former must, on the very best actuarial advice, be as large as a small weekly payment can be made to yield; and the latter must include self-government, privacy, and freedom on equal terms to those enjoyed for so many years by men's lodges.

Sick pay to women from joint contributions is admittedly a more difficult problem than sick pay for men, but it is not incapable of solution, and even if it were, the need for self-governed meeting-places of the kind mentioned is great, and will be greater. Natural human nature calls for, and is the better for rest, change, enjoyment; and the women of gifts and with desire to use them for the benefit of their sex can find no wider sphere for practical work than a Voluntary Friendly Society Club for women based on the lines of those already existing.

W. S. (Father).
M. E. S. (Daughter).

WOMEN PATROLS.

MADAM,—In 1914 you kindly inserted an appeal in your valuable paper from the Women's Patrol Committee of the National Union of Women Workers, to which appeal the response was so generous that it was possible to launch the scheme at once; and an extraordinary success it has proved, not only in the United Kingdom but in South Africa. Steps are also being taken to organise similar work in America, Australia, Canada, and New Zealand.

The work of the Patrols has been voluntary, but to make their work effective it has been necessary to employ highly-trained and educated organisers, to whose untiring and self-effacing efforts the success of the movement is in great part due. The funds are now nearly exhausted, and without immediate help the work cannot go on. It is as urgently needed now as ever it was, and the Committee appeal to all who have the welfare of the girls of England at heart to come forward and to help them to carry on the work, at any rate until the end of the war.

Since the summer of 1916 some of the patrols have been employed and paid by the Commissioner of Police to act as auxiliaries to the police, and so useful have they proved that more of them are being asked for. But in order to train these women, we must have organisers upon whose trustworthiness, thoroughness, tact, and wisdom we can depend. The voluntary patrol is absolutely dependent upon the trained organiser, and the trained organiser must be paid.

Who will come forward and help us to do this? Will those who realise this opportunity to help a noble and necessary work of national import-send a cheque to the Hon. Treasurer, Miss Agnes Garrett, 2, Gower Street, W.C. 1.

M. G. CARDEN, Hon. Secretary.
AGNES GARRETT, Hon. Treasurer.

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Outfits for Women Workers

A selection from our huge stock of Land Suits, Overalls, etc. Orders should be placed now to avoid the inevitable increase in prices later on.

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1. **Ideal Land Suit** (as sketch,) for Autumn or Winter. Cord of superior quality Corduroy in Brown, Grey, and Bottle Green. Coat **21/9**; Breeches **12/6**; Hat **4/11**.

No. 2. **Women's Khaki Drill Land Suits**, showerproof, reliable quality. Prices: Coat **21/-**; Breeches **9/11**; Hat **3/11**; Leggings to match **6/11** and **10/6**.

No. 3. **Women's four-piece Land Suit** of Khaki Drill, good quality. Comprising Coat, Skirt, Knickers, and Blouse. Complete ~~29/6~~.

No. 4. **Women's Khaki Breeches 5/11**.

No. 5. **Women's Khaki Drill Suit.** Coat **15/11**; Breeches **8/11**.

No. 6. **Women's Overalls and House Coats**. All colours. From **14/11** to **4/11**.

Write for fully illustrated list of LAND SUITS & OVERALLS

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Surgical Dressings and Instruments.

British Made Hot-Water Bottles
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Prices from 3/6 each.

Water Beds, Air Cushions and Invalid Appliances on Hire, and sold on the Hire Purchase System.

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Bournville Cocoa
"Of special importance to workers during these strenuous times."
The Lancet, Dec. 16th, 1916.
MADE BY CADBURY

N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospital for Home and Foreign Service.

NEWS FROM SALONICA.

Dr. McIlroy has had permission to move her hospital to a place nearer the firing-line, where there will be increased opportunities for usefulness. The site chosen is on high ground, and has the advantage of an unending supply of water laid on direct from the mountain. It is near a group of French hospitals, and Dr. McIlroy will undertake the electrical treatment not only for her own hospital, but for the whole group.

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Subscriptions are still urgently needed, and should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Laurie, Red House, Greenock. Cheques to be crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland." Subscriptions for the London Units to be sent to the Right Hon. Viscountess Cowdray or the Hon. Mrs. B. M. Graves, Hon. Treasurers, 66, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W. 1.

	£	s.	d.
Forward as per list to Sept. 3rd, 1917	232,640	4	4
Further donations received to August 30th, 1917 :—			
*Staff of Greenock Pilots, per A. Dunlop Munro, Esq. ...	10	0	0
*Paisley W.S.S., per Miss Mary G. Todd, Hon. Treas., to continue "Paisley Teachers'" bed, Royaumont (4th six months)	25	0	0
*Mrs. F. G. Ashwell Cooke ...	2	10	0
Mrs. C. S. Crosse	1	0	0
*Per Miss Robertson: Mrs. Welsh (£1 1s.), Mrs. Colin Ballantyne (£1 1s.), An Australian Soldier serving in France (2nd don.) (10s.), to continue the "Innerleithen and Walkerburn" beds, Salonica	2	12	0
*Miss Mary Dalby, Hon. Treas. Birkenhead W.S.S., to continue the "Mary" bed in Queen Mary's Ward, Royaumont	1	0	0
*Per Mrs. Robertson: Employees and Staff of Saxone Shoe Co. (18th con.) (£11 4s. 9d.), Employees Dick, Kerr & Co. (18th con.) (£4 13s. 10d.), Employees M. Muir & Co. (17th con.) (£1 5s. 9d.)	17	4	4
Miss M. V. Kitson	1	0	0
Collected by the Alvechurch Women's Fund, result of sale of tickets, per the Rev. V. G. Goodman	111	14	0
*Nairn W.S.S., per Mrs. Ellis, Hon. Treas....	15	0	0
Dyce Branch National Union of Railwaymen, per Geo. Paterson, Sec.	10	0	
*Per Miss Kathleen Burke, per Messrs. Morgan, Grenfell & Co., per Messrs. J. P. Morgan & Co., New York	4,000	0	0
Anonymous	5	0	0
Per Miss Agnes H. Constable...	10	0	0
*Per the Manageress: 4th instalment towards "Fisher's Hotel" bed, Salonica	10	1	0
*Glasgow and West of Scotland W.S.S. Joint Com., per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas., August donations: *Mid and Upper Cowal Com., per Mrs. Graham, proceeds of Garden Fête and Free Gift Sale (£250); Sale at Symington, per Miss Mann, to name two beds, "The Symington Girls" (£100); *The Jugra Land and Rubber Estates, per Messrs. Macdonald, Stewart & Stewart, C.A. (£100); R. D. MacGregor, Esq., per Miss Dunlop, to name "Wiston and Roberton" bed (£50); *Glasgow Tramway War Comfort Scheme, per J. Dalrymple, Esq. (£30); A Friend, per Messrs. G. H. Robb & Crosbie (£30); Flower Sales, per Miss Duff (£11 15s. 1d.); *Mrs. Charles Ker (£10 10s.), Whist Drive, per Mrs. Marks and Mrs. MacMillan (£7 10s. 6d.), Ayr W.S.S., Mrs. Abbott (£5), The Misses Forrest (£4), Mrs. Stevenson, sale of Golliwogs, per Mrs. Brownlee (£3), *Miss Paton (£1), Mrs. Pryor (£1), Sale of Photos, per Mrs. Morton (13s.), Miss Roddie (10s.). *Workmen's Scheme.*—Caledonian Employees, Motherwell and Edinburgh Districts, per Douglas Hathorn, Esq. (£81 3s. 6d.); Employees Steel Co. of Scotland (£10 14s. 10d.); Messrs. Hugh Smith & Co., Ltd. (£10); *Employees Messrs. Wm. Simons & Co., Ltd. (£9 11s.); *Staff and Employees at Trongate Yards and Fitzroy Works of Messrs. P. & W. McLellan, Ltd., per Wm. Wright, Esq. (£3 3s. 5d.); *Employees Messrs. Wm. Martin & Sons (£3 3s.), *Employees Messrs. Wm. Beattie (£2 9s.), *Employees Cassel Cyanide Co. Ltd. (£2), *Employees Craigpark Electric Cable Co. (£2), *Employees Messrs. Alexander Jack & Co. (10s.)	729	13	4
*"Scottish Women's Hospitals" Flag Day, Glasgow and West of Scotland W.S.S. Joint Com., per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas.: Motherwell Flag Day, per Mrs. Jackson—Caledonian Rly. Employees (£91 5s. 1d.), Flags, Postcards, &c. (£150 18s. 11d.), Messrs. Ford & Co. (Employees) (£50), Messrs. Finlay & Co. (Employees) (£10), Messrs. Finlay & Co. (Firm) (£5), Mr. N. Colville (£4 4s.), D. L. Motor Co. (£2 2s.), Miss Colville (£2), Mrs. Colville (£1), Mr. Gillespie (£1), Miss Addie (£1), Mr. Baxter (£1), Mr. Ford (10s.)—£300. Helensburgh Flag Day, per Mrs. Kidston (£146 4s. 4d.); Castle Douglas W.S.S., per Mrs. Campbell (Buttonhole Day) (£100). Bearsden Flag Day, per Mrs. Carslaw: A Friend (£11 11s. 6d.), J. Ferguson, Esq. (£10 10s.), Mrs. Speirs (£5), Mrs. Hunter (£5), W. H. Carslaw, Esq. (£5), Mrs. Howie (£2 2s.), Miss McEwan (£2 2s.), Mrs. Kirsop (£2), R. Headrick, Esq. (£2), Mrs. French (£1 1s.), Mr. Weir (£1 1s.), Mr. Alexander (£1), Mrs. Andrew (£1), Lady Campbell (£1), Mrs. Campbell (£1), Mrs. Dick (£1), Mrs. Duvoisin (£1), J. D. (£1), Mrs. Harvey (£1), Mrs. McDonald (£1), Miss Mary Scott (£1), Mrs. Stewart, Bargownie (£1), Mrs. Stewart, Hillfoot House (£1), Mr. Stewart, Hillfoot House, (£1), Mrs. Boyd (10s.), Mrs. Dykes (10s.), Mrs. Frame (10s.), Miss E. M. Kay (10s.), Mrs. and Miss Moore (10s.), Mrs. Russell, Lochbrae (10s.), Mrs. Russell, Redlands (10s.), Mrs. Scott (10s.), Sums under 10s., (17s. 6d.), Sale of Flags (£34 15s.)—£100. Lanark and District, per Mrs. Brown (£84). Airdrie and District, per Thomas Thomson, Esq. (£59 10s. 10d.). Mid and Upper Cowal Com., per Mrs. Graham (£47 14s. 10d.). Milngavie and District, per Mrs. Ker (£45 7s. 4d.). Millport Flag Day, per A. Crerar (£37 10s.). Bridge of Weir Flag Day, per Mrs. Buchanan (£30 10s. 2d.). West Kilbride Flag Day, per Mrs. Graham (£27 18s. 6d.). Skelmolie Flag Day, per Mrs. Farnham (£25 19s. 5d.). Islay Flag Day (Bridgend District), per Mrs. Forbes (£24 3s. 4d.). Lesmahagow Flag Day, per Mrs. Gray (£23 6s. 9d.). Campsie Flag Day, per Mrs. Brown (£21 5s. 8d.). Ardrossan, Saltcoats, and Stevenson W.S.S., per Mrs. Morgan Thomas, towards Flag Day (£20). North Cowal Com. Flag Day, per Mrs. Jeffrey (£20). Whithorn and Glasserie Flag Day, per R. Macfie, Esq. (£18 16s. 10d.). Houston, Crosslee, and Georgetown Flag Day, per Mrs. Laurie (£18 7s. 6d.). Kirkconnel, proceeds of entertainment at Public School, per Miss Thomson, towards Flag Day (£17 17s.). Dalbeattie Flag Day, per Miss Watson (£16 11s.). Catrine and Sorn Flag Day, per John W. Love, Esq. (£16 8s. 4d.). Newton Stewart Flag Day, per Miss Kelly (£16 3s. 1d.). Fairlie Flag Day, per Jas. Tennant, Esq. (£14 14s. 6d.). Middlebie and Waterbeck Flag Day, per Mrs. Duke (£13 12s. 6d.). Calderhead Shotts Flag Day, per Jas. Heard, Esq. (£13 2s.). Flag Day at Lenzie, per Miss Duff (£12 17s. 10d.). Dunlop Parish, per Mrs. Howieson Crauford (£12). Dairy (Ayrshire) Flag Day, per Jas. Jackson, Esq. (£11 15s.). Carnwath and District, per George C. Murray, Esq. (£10 11s. 3d.). Stepps Flag Day, per Mrs. Maclean (£10 8s.). Lochranza Flag Day, per Miss Edith Kerr (£9 11s. 6d.). Bridge of Weir Orphan Homes, per Mrs. Burgis (£9 5s. 4d.). Dairy (Galloway) Flag Day, per Mrs. Millroy (£8 6s. 9d.). Cumbernauld Flag Day, per Mrs. Burns (£7 16s. 3d.). Bothwell Flag Day, per J. Walls, Esq. (£7 4s.). Luss Flag Day, per Mrs. Brown (£6 2s. 4d.). Flag Day in Cardross, per Miss Eunice Murray (£5 6s. 6d.). Sliddery Flag Day, per Miss Scott (£3 17s.). Dundrennan Flag Day, per Jas. Scott, Esq. (£3 15s. 6d.). Kippford, per S. M. Crosbie, Esq. (£3 14s. 6d.). Carmunnock Flag Day, per Mrs. Gordon (£3 10s. 6d.). Kilmorie Flag Day, per A. Duncan, Esq. (£3 10s.). Coylton and District, per Miss Downie (£3 7s. 6d.). Machrie Bay and District, per Miss Cameron (£3 0s. 7d.). Thornhill District, per Mrs. Connell (£2 15s.). Dykehead and District, per Miss Napier (£1 6s.)	1,399	5	3
John Glynn, Esq., per Miss Curwen, Organiser S.W.H. Liverpool	1	0	0
*Miss Gordon, Montrose (Dr. Inglis' Unit)	20	0	0
*Sir R. Rowand Anderson ...	3	0	0
Mrs. A. B. Branstone, sale of 6 doz. Reports	18	9	
Per Mrs. McM. Alexander: Mrs. Alexander (£2 2s.), Mrs. Lewill (£1 1s.), Mrs. Dilks (2s. 6d.)	3	5	6
*Anonymous	33	6	8
Miss Tyzack, per Miss Annie W. Cooke, Sec. Active Service Fund, Balance W.S. Society's Funds	3	2	9
*George Lauder, Esq., Pittsburgh, per Miss Lauder ...	50	0	0
*Domestic Staff, St. Mary's School, Melrose	10	0	
*Mrs. Macdonald (£2 earmarked for Serbia)	5	0	0
*Per Mrs. Robertson: Messrs. Boyd & Forrest (72nd con.) (£2 7s. 8d.), Miss Ballantyne (£2), Messrs. Portland Forge Co. (£1 14s. 8d.)	6	2	4
*Edinburgh W.S.S., per Mrs. Wilson, Hon. Treas., August donations: Proceeds of Recital by Pupils of Miss Margaret Fox (£10 1s.), *Messrs. Brown Bros., Ltd. (£8 14s. 10d.), *Employees Messrs. MacTaggart, Scott & Co. (£4 4s. 10d.), J. McQueen, Esq., Pittsburgh (£3 3s.), *Employees Messrs. Thomson & Porteous (£3 2s.), *Women Clerks, Acct. Dept., G.P.O. (£2 7s.), *Employees Messrs. Middlemass Biscuit Works (£1 5s. 9d.), N.U. Railwaymen, Carlisle Branch No. 2 (10s.), N.U. Railwaymen, Ratho collection (5s.), Miss White (4s.), N.U. Railwaymen, St. Boswell's Branch (2s. 6d.)... ...	33	19	11
	£239,141	19	5

* Denotes further donations.

FURTHER LIST OF BEDS NAMED.

Name of Bed.	*Donor.*
"Paisley Teachers'" (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Paisley W.S.S., per Miss Mary G. Todd, Hon. Treas.
"The Symington Girls" (Royaumont, 1 year each)	Glasgow and West of Scotland Joint Committee, per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas.
"Wiston and Roberton" (Royaumont, 1 year each)	Glasgow and West of Scotland Joint Committee, per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas.
"Motherwell and District Caledonian Railway Employees"	S.W.H. Flag Day, per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas., per Douglas Hathorn, Esq.
"Cumbrae"	Result of Millport Flag Day, per A. C. Crerar, Esq.
"Lanimer"	Result of Lanark Flag Day, per Mrs. Brown.
"Private Benjamin Sutherland" ...	Proceeds of Cigarette Case Drawing, Alhambra Matinée.
"Dalry"	Result of Flag Days.

Erratum Note.—Re donation of £185 from "Girton and Newnham Colleges' War Hospital Fund" in list for week ending August 23rd—"to continue the three 'Old Hall' Beds for a second year, Salonica," should read:—"Collected by Miss Rickett (for Joint Committee) balance of £35 for 'Girton and Newnham Unit," instead of "General Funds."

FURTHER GENEROUS SUBSCRIPTIONS FROM AMERICA AND CANADA.

It will be noticed in our list that a magnificent sum of £4,000 had been received from America in response to Miss Kathleen Burke's appeal. Since closing this list, a cheque for £800, earmarked for the upkeep of the "Madge Neill Fraser Memorial Ward" in the Russian Unit, has been received by Mrs. Laurie, the Hon. Treasurer, S. W. H. Headquarters.

London Units.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER OF A DOCTOR WITH DR. CHESNEY'S UNIT ON THE ROUMANIAN FRONT.

Varnitz, July 18th, 1917.

"At last we are again having more adventures. Last Monday we agreed with Mr. Retkire of the Red Cross, from whom we take orders, to form a field ambulance, and to start the very next day. At 6 p.m., after packing up feverishly, we were advised by the guide to leave Tecuci at 5 a.m. the next morning. We drove steadily for five and a-half hours, and then halted for two hours rest and food. We then continued our journey, and arrived here rather exhausted at 9 p.m. last night. After crossing the Sereth, the country got more and more hilly and wooded. We drove through deserted villages, some of which have been badly shelled. The last part of the journey the roads were very bad; they went up and down over the lower slopes of the Carpathians. Our present position is on a steep hillside with a valley at the bottom. Facing the foot of the valley is another slope of ground running at right angles to the valley. On this slope the Germans sit exactly two miles away. Their guns command our valley very well, but fortunately they always shell the southern slope, and we are on the northern. It is a most heavenly spot, the first really pretty country we have been in since we came to Russia. There are trees and brooks and the most wonderful wild flowers. An advance is expected in a day or two, or rather an attack. The guns are pounding away quite briskly for this part of the front. This morning we had an aeroplane duel overhead, but I was too tired and sleepy to get up. To add to our troubles yesterday, the last part of the journey was done in floods of rain, and we had to put up our tents in the dark and wet. Our poor horses had come more than thirty miles over bad roads and with heavy carts to pull, and they were tired out.

"I am very glad that we have left Tecuci. It was a horrible place. Two nights before we left it, the Germans shelled it. They only sent five shells, but the second one destroyed a train full of food and ammunition. There was an enormous fire, and Russian shells kept on exploding for two days afterwards. They destroyed the food supplies for 20,000 men. The Russians just managed to get away a train load of dynamite. They backed it out of the station down the line. The Roumanians, who were guarding the station and nominally in charge, of course, lost their heads and ran away. The shells all fell close to the station, and only fifty casualties were reported. Several panes of glass were broken in our hospital, and the ceilings began to fall down. The next morning the Germans sent an aeroplane overhead, from which leaflets were dropped, saying that they were going to shell Tecuci at 6 p.m., and destroy every house in the town. Six p.m. came, and there was no bombardment, but the next morning they sent twenty-five shells round about the station. A Russian officer came round and warned us all to have our gas masks ready. I really think we shall get some good work here. In any case, it is extremely interesting."

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO LONDON UNITS.

Donations and Collections.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	45,606	6	8
July, 1917.			
American Collections, per Miss Burke	1,250	0	0
Askes Hatcham School for Girls (bed)	25	0	0
Blackheath Committee, per Mrs. Cowell...	7	8	3
Bradford Girls' Grammar School, from the Staff	10	0	0
Bunbury, Miss M.		5	0
Cambridge Higher Grade Girls' School		10	6
Cambridge County School for Girls (bed)	4	0	0
Christ's College Hospital, Herts	1	11	6
Cooper, Allan, Esq....		5	0
Dixon, Miss Aimée...		1	0
Drew, Miss S. H.		5	0
Dunfermline Co-op. Workers (bed)	6	13	6
Dunne, per Miss H. (collected)		6	0
Eagles, Miss M. A. C.		5	0
"Four Well Wishers," per Miss Wheeler		4	0
Haddon, Mrs., per Mrs. Cowell	1	10	0
Harris, Miss A.		1	0
Hinchman, Mrs.	10	0	0
Hinde, Mrs. (monthly don.) ...		5	0
Hudson, Miss W.		4	6
Holborn and S. St. Pancras Branch (bed)	8	13	0
Landon, Miss E. M.	1	1	0
Letchworth W.S. Society, per R. Tabor, Esq.	6	1	2
Orme Girls' School—Forms V., VI.		10	0
Queen's Hall Concert Collection (balance), per Lieut. S. West	12	19	6
Robinson, Miss S. M.		5	0
Swannie, Miss M.		10	0
"The Ocean" Staff (Southwark Street, 5 collections) ...	3	0	0
Walker, Miss J. Crompton ...	5	5	0
Worthing Meeting Collection, per Miss Curwen	5	1	5
"Lamp Day" Fund, half profits...	1,291	18	3
August, 1917.			
American Collections, per Miss Burke	5	5	2
Benson, Mrs....		10	0
Burrie, Per C., Esq., Collection Ministry of Shipping	1	1	0
British Patriotic Fund of Montevideo, per D. Begg, Esq.	50	0	0
British School of Archæology in Egypt, per Mrs. Flinders Petrie	73	7	10
Collecting Card No 56, per Mrs. Brock		6	0
Dunfermline Co-op. Women's Guild (bed)	12	15	10
Finch, A. H., Esq....	10	10	0
Hinde, Mrs. (monthly don.) ...		5	0
Leytonstone County High School for Girls, per Miss Stemper	5	0	0
Macbean, Per W., Esq.	16	0	0
Prothero, Michael, Esq.	5	0	0
Sheffield and District Adult School (bed)	12	10	0
Simpson, Miss	3	0	0
South Coast Meetings Collections, per the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield and Miss Curwen	218	5	7
Tait, Mrs.		10	0
"The Ocean" Staff	1	16	6
White, Per Mrs.		5	6
Willis, Per Miss		18	6
	£48,688	2	2

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th, 8.30 p.m.—Upton Licensed Vehicle Workers' Trade Union, White Hart Hotel, Upton Hill—Miss Ruth Young will speak on the granting of votes for women and industrial problems now and after the war.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21st, 8.0 p.m.—Clapham Board of Licensed Vehicle Workers' Trade Union, South-West District Office, 166, Wirtemberg Street, Clapham High Street, S.W. 4—Mrs. Corbett Fisher, M.A., will speak on the granting of votes for women and industrial problems now and after the war.

LONDON UNITS, SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS FOR FOREIGN SERVICE.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th.—Drawing-room Meeting, London Units, Summersdale School, Chichester—Speakers: Misses Henderson Crompton.

"THE ENGLISHWOMAN" EXHIBITION.

The Seventh Annual Exhibition of Arts and Handicrafts, organised by *The Englishwoman*, will be held at the Central Hall, Westminster, from November 14th to the 24th. These exhibitions are becoming increasingly popular each year amongst art and craft workers, and, since the war, one or two new branches of work have been included in the usual exhibits, amongst which are now to be found the work of War Hospital Supply Depôts, and various articles made by wounded or interned soldiers and sailors.

Although it is not so difficult at the present time to dispose of these articles, yet it is also very necessary to find a market for the work produced by our home and village industries. In our enthusiasm for war charities and funds we are apt to overlook these, but it is most essential that they should be supported and not allowed to die out, for when peace returns they will undoubtedly afford suitable openings for some of our wounded soldiers who are unable to take up work of a more strenuous nature.

TRAINING FOR WELFARE SUPERVISORS.

A special course of training for welfare supervisors is being arranged by the Ratan Tata Department of Social Science and Administration, University of London, with the assistance of the Health and Welfare Section of the Ministry of Munitions. It is to be held at the London School of Economics and Political Science, will extend over nine months (October to June), and includes both theoretical instruction and practical work.

MORE CONGRATULATIONS FROM OVERSEAS.

The following resolution has been received by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies from the Women's Reform League of New South Wales (founded by Mrs. Molyneux Parkes in 1902):—

"That the members of the Women's Reform League of New South Wales offer their sincere and hearty congratulations to their sisters over the sea on their having obtained the franchise. The noble manner in which the women of England have responded to the nation's call in war-time affords assurance that the Suffrage will be exercised by them with judgment and discretion."

The women of New South Wales look forward, as befits the women of a new country, and talk of our "having obtained the franchise." We are not quite there yet, but we hope we may be before they have time to realise that they were a little beforehand with their welcome congratulations.

MISS ROYDEN'S SERMONS.

Miss Maude Royden will take up her position as pulpit assistant at the City Temple, Holborn Viaduct, on Sunday, September 16th, when she will preach at the 7 p.m. service.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

The Canadian Government's War Time Franchise Bill contains a provision for enfranchising women who are relations of overseas soldiers. An amendment will be offered proposing the enfranchisement of all women.

Mr. Cecil Chapman, the well-known Metropolitan Police Magistrate, writing in *The Daily News* of September 10th, states: "For dealing with boys and girls up to the age of sixteen, everybody is agreed that women of education and refinement make by far the best probation officers." This is a needed sequel to the letter addressed to Clerks of Justices last week by Sir E. Troupe, Permanent Under-Secretary at the Home Office, in regard to the administration of the probation system. Sir E. Troupe urged the employment of women probation officers, but his letter seemed to imply that where only one officer was paid, that one should be a man, and the services of women should be enlisted in a voluntary capacity. It cannot be too strongly urged that the most important consideration is to obtain the best qualified worker, irrespective of sex, and to pay to both men and women "a salary sufficient to attract a fully qualified person."

In an interview in *The Observer* of September 9th, Judge Neil, of Chicago, puts the case for "Mothers' Pensions" in cogent terms. He draws attention to the anomaly of a pension being given to the widow of a soldier, and withheld from the widow of a munition worker who has died from overwork. Yet the "national service" of the former would not be possible without that of the latter. He further points out that the logical sequence of soldiers' pensions to soldiers' widows' pensions should be extended to pensions to all widowed mothers, and finally to all mothers who have not the advantage of support from their husbands.

Estd. 1895. **WICKS'** Estd. 1895

V. A. D. and WAR WORKERS' CORSETS

For Hospital Work, Nursing, Riding, Gardening, Motor Driving, and ordinary wear in comfort.

Flexible Unbreakable Steels

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An Invigorating Nutrient for BRAIN-FAG, DEPRESSION, LASSITUDE

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30	2 3	6 3	12 0
40	3 0	8 6	16 0

All advertisements should be addressed to The Manager, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Ltd., 14, Great Smith-st., Westminster, and must be received not later than first post Wednesday.

POSITIONS VACANT.

THE WOMEN'S TRAINING COLONY, Berkshire.—(Rescue-work on new lines). Required, educated woman, aged 25 to 35, to organise recreation, outdoor and indoor, and to give general assistance. Must be musical.—Apply Miss Wakefield, 58, Belsize Park-Gardens, N.W. 3.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY.
LADIES TO VOLUNTEER
for work in
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